

Clark County Coroner
1704 Pinto Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89106
(702) 455-3210



AUTOPSY REPORT

Case Number: [REDACTED]

October 3, 2017

AUTOPSY REPORT

PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION ON THE BODY OF



PATHOLOGIC DIAGNOSES


I. Gunshot wound of chest.

OPINION

Based on the autopsy findings and the circumstances surrounding the death, as currently understood, the cause of death is **gunshot wound of chest**, and the manner of death is **Homicide**.

CAUSE OF DEATH: This [REDACTED]-year-old male, [REDACTED], died as a result of gunshot wound of chest.

MANNER OF DEATH: **HOMICIDE.**


JENNIFER CORNEAL, M.D.
Forensic Pathologist

Date signed: 12/20/17

JC/kra/ag

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October 3, 2017

POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION ON THE BODY OF

[REDACTED]

Date of death: 0545 hours on October 2, 2017

Date of autopsy: 0325 hours on October 3, 2017

IDENTIFICATION: The body is identified by a tag on the right great toe bearing the decedent's name and case number.

WITNESSES: Assisting is Forensic Technician Suzanne. There are no outside observers.

CLOTHING: The body is unclad when initially viewed. A pair of blue jeans, gray underwear, socks and boots accompany the body.

EVIDENCE OF MEDICAL THERAPY: None.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

Injuries are described in a separate section below.

GENERAL: The body is that of a normally developed and well-nourished [REDACTED] male appearing consistent with the listed age of [REDACTED] years. The length is 74 inches, and the weight is 239 pounds as received. The body is well preserved, cold, and has not been embalmed. Rigidity is fully developed in the jaw and extremities. Lividity is pink-purple, nonblanching, and in a posterior distribution.

HEAD: The scalp is covered with reddish-brown hair measuring up to 1 inch on the top of the head. There is a beard and mustache on the face. The ears are normally formed and without drainage. The earlobes are not pierced. The irides are blue, the corneas are clear, and the bulbar and palpebral conjunctivae are free of petechiae. The sclerae are white. The nose is intact, and the nares are clean and unobstructed. The lips are normally formed.

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The teeth are natural and in good condition.

NECK: The neck is symmetrical and without injury.

CHEST AND ABDOMEN: The chest is normally formed, symmetrical, and without palpable masses.

The abdomen is flat and soft. No masses are palpable.

EXTERNAL GENITALIA: The external genitalia are those of an uncircumcised adult male with both testes palpable in the scrotum.

BACK: The back is straight and symmetrical. The anus is atraumatic.

ARMS: The arms are normally formed. No needle punctures, track marks, or ventral wrist scars are noted. The fingernails are cut short and clean and do not extend beyond the fingertips.

LEGS: The legs are normally formed and have no edema, amputations, or deformity. The toenails are short, trim, and clean.

BODY MARKINGS (SCARS AND TATTOOS):

Scars:

1. A 1/4 inch diameter circular scar on the right side of the neck.

Tattoos: There are multiple monochromatic and multicolored tattoos of the extremities and torso. They are photographed for documentation purposes.

INJURIES, EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL

There is a penetrating gunshot wound of the chest. The directions are stated with reference to the standard anatomic positions.

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PENETRATING GUNSHOT WOUND OF CHEST:

ENTRANCE: There is an entrance gunshot wound on the right side of the chest. It is centered 20-3/4 inches below the top of the head and 10 inches right of midline. It is a 1/8 inch diameter defect with a 1/16 inch rim of abrasion. There is no soot or stippling on the adjacent skin.

PATH: The projectile enters the right side of the chest perforating the right 8th intercostal space, perforating the liver, stomach and diaphragm and entering the left chest. There is a right hemothorax and a hemoperitoneum.

PROJECTILE/SITE OF LODGEMENT: The jacket is recovered from the lower lobe of the left lung. The projectile is recovered from the left 7th intercostal space.

DIRECTION: Right-to-left, front-to-back and upward.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

BODY CAVITIES: The abdominal fat layer measures up to 3.8 cm in thickness. There is a right hemothorax and a hemoperitoneum. The serosal surfaces are smooth, glistening, and without adhesions. The organs are normally located. The diaphragm is not intact.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: The heart weighs 470 grams and is not enlarged. It has a normal shape with a smooth, glistening epicardium. The coronary arteries have a normal origin and distribution with right dominance. The coronary arteries have less than 10% yellow atherosclerotic stenosis.

The myocardium is red-brown, firm, and uniform without focal fibrosis, softening, or hyperemia. The ventricles are not dilated or hypertrophied. The right ventricle, left ventricle, and interventricular septum measure 0.3 cm, 1.1 cm, and 1.3 cm, respectively.

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The endocardium is intact, smooth, and glistening. The cardiac valve leaflets are of normal number, pliable, intact, and free of vegetations. The atrial and ventricular septa are free of defects.

The aorta follows its usual course and has minimal atherosclerotic changes. There are no vascular anomalies or aneurysms. The vena cavae and pulmonary arteries are without thrombus or embolus.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: See Injuries External and Internal. The right and left lungs weigh 320 and 490 grams, respectively, and have the usual lobation. The pleura are smooth and glistening; the lungs have minimal anthracotic pigment. The lungs are mildly congested and edematous. The parenchyma is dark red and exudes moderate amounts of fluid. There is hemorrhage in the left lower lung lobe surrounding the projectile jacket. The lungs have no consolidation, infarct, tumor, gross fibrosis, or enlargement of airspaces. The bronchi contain no foreign material and have tan-pink mucosa.

HEPATOBIILIARY SYSTEM: See Injuries External and Internal. The liver weighs 1730 grams. The capsule is not intact and there is a large defect in the right lobe of the liver. The parenchyma is red-brown with focal hemorrhage in the area of defect.

The gallbladder contains less than 5 ml of bile and no stones. Its mucosa is uniform and the wall is not thickened.

The pancreas has a normal size, shape, and lobulated structure. The parenchyma is pink-tan, firm, and uniform.

HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEM: The spleen weighs 140 grams. The capsule is smooth and intact. The parenchyma is maroon, soft, and uniform.

There is no enlargement of the lymph nodes in the neck, chest, or abdomen.

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ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: The thyroid gland is not enlarged, and the lobes are symmetrical. The parenchyma is uniform, firm, and red-brown.

The adrenal glands have the usual size and shape. The cortices are thin, uniform, and yellow and there is no hemorrhage or tumor.

GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM: The esophagus and gastroesophageal junction are unremarkable. The stomach contains approximately 300 ml of food material without visible pills or pill residue. The gastric mucosa is not intact. The duodenal mucosa is intact and unremarkable. The small and large intestines and appendix are unremarkable to inspection and palpation.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: The right and left kidneys weigh 130 grams each and have a normal shape and position. The cortical surfaces are smooth. The kidneys have the usual corticomedullary structure without tumors or cysts. The pelves and ureters are not dilated or thickened. The bladder contains 20 ml of urine. The mucosa is intact, and the bladder wall is not hypertrophied.

NECK: The tongue, strap muscles, and other anterior neck soft tissues have no hemorrhage. The hyoid bone and the cartilaginous structures of the larynx and trachea are normally formed and without fracture. The airway is unobstructed, lined by smooth, pink-tan mucosa, and contains no foreign material. The cervical vertebrae have no displacement, hypermobility, or crepitus.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM: The musculoskeletal system is well developed and free of deformity. There are no fractures of the clavicles, sternum, ribs, vertebrae, or pelvis. The ribs are not brittle. The skeletal muscle is dark red and firm.

HEAD: The scalp is free of hemorrhage. The calvarium and base of the skull are normally configured and have no fractures. The dura is intact, and there is no epidural or subdural hemorrhage.

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CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM: The unfixed brain weighs 1530 grams. The leptomeninges are glistening and transparent without underlying hemorrhage, exudate, or cortical contusions. The hemispheres are symmetrical and have a normal gyral pattern. There is no flattening of the gyri, narrowing of the sulci, midline shift, or evidence of herniation. The arteries at the base of brain have no atherosclerotic changes or aneurysms.

Sections through the cerebral hemispheres have a uniform, intact cortical ribbon and uniform white matter. The basal ganglia, thalami, hippocampi and other internal structures are symmetrical and without focal change. The ventricles are not enlarged, and the linings are smooth and glistening. Sections of the brainstem and cerebellum show an intact structure without focal lesions.

SPECIMENS RETAINED

TOXICOLOGY: Samples of central and peripheral blood, vitreous humor, urine, and liver are retained for toxicology. Toxicological testing detected ethanol (0.129 g/100mL).

HISTOLOGY: Representative sections of organs and tissues are retained.

PHOTOGRAPHS: Digital identification photographs, overall external body photographs, and photographs of the gunshot wound and projectile are taken.

RADIOGRAPHS: Full body radiographs are taken and show metallic fragments in the left chest area.